

**To the Chair and Members of the
Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
WORK PLAN REPORT 2012/13**

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
The Mayor Councillor B Hoyle Councillor P Coddington Councillor C Ransome	All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides an update on progress against the Panel's work plan.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

2. Not exempt

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Panel is asked to:
 - i. Comment on the revised work plan detailed in Appendix A.
 - ii. Note the Annex to Appendix A which details outcomes and impacts of the Panel's work.
 - iii. Receive an update on activities undertaken since the meeting held on 3rd September 2012.
 - iv. Note the correspondence between the Executive and the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel in Appendix B to F including the Environment Strategy and Work and Skills Update.
 - v. Note the scoping form for the joint review being undertaken by Members from the Regeneration and Environment and Schools, Children and Young People 'To Understand And Address Careers Advice And Guidance To Children And Young People Within Doncaster Pre And Post 16' to be circulated at the meeting.
 - vi. Note the agenda for the last Enterprising Doncaster meeting that was held on the 29th October 2012 in Appendix G.

BACKGROUND

4. The Panel agreed its 2012/13 work plan at its meeting on 15th June 2012. This report provides an update on key issues relating to the work programme following that meeting, this is attached at Appendix A. Members are reminded that the work plan is a live document to be regularly reviewed and updated. Annex 1 to Appendix A provides an ongoing summary of issues considered together with the impacts and outcomes resulting from the Panel's work and this will also be updated on a regular basis.

Progress on the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Work Plan

Environmental Strategy Working Group

5. As part of the Panel's workplan, it was agreed that a working group be set up to look at the Environmental Strategy. A meeting of the working group therefore took place on the 10th August 2012 at which Members met with Officers and reviewed the Themes and Priorities of the draft Environmental Strategy.
6. A copy of the correspondence regarding the recommendations made as a result of that meeting can be found in Appendix B, C and D. The final version of the strategy will be circulated outside of the formal Panel meeting to Panel Members for comment prior to it being taken to Cabinet on the 5th December 2012.

Work and Skills

7. At its meeting on the 3rd September 2012, the Panel considered a report updating them on the work of the Work and Skills Partnership. As part of the recommendations made, the Panel agreed that a joint working group should be formed with Members from the Regeneration and Environment and Schools, Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Please refer to Appendices E and F regarding correspondence on this topic.
8. Members have been since identified from both Panels and a scoping meeting has been held. As a result of that meeting a scoping form has been produced which outlines the purpose and proposed arrangements for the review. This form will be circulated to the Panel at the meeting for ratification. A meeting for the review has been arranged to take place on the 11th December 2012.

Housing Topic

9. At its meeting on the 3rd September 2012, as part of the workplan discussion the Panel agreed that a working group is established to consider the following piece of work, "How can we improve access to finance for developers to meet our housing target and to assist buyers to purchase their own homes within Doncaster?". Members of the Panel were appointed to the working group and further scoping work will be undertaken in the near future with a view to undertaking the review early 2013.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

10. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to receive an update on its 2012/13 work plan.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

11. This report provides the panel with an update on its 2012/13 work programme.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

Priority Theme	Mayor's Priorities for 2011/12	Implications of this initiative
1. Creating a strong, connected and inclusive economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive forward the Doncaster economy • Get the balance of public and private transport right • Promote Doncaster as a tourist destination • Regenerate Doncaster's town centres 	The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.
2. Developing stronger communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage community harmony and cohesion. Treat people as individuals, not by reference to labels and artificial groupings 	
3. Increasing and improving housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise housing standards 	
4. Protecting and improving all our children's lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to improve education and skills • Build on a strengthening Children's Service 	
5. Improving health and support for independent lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage attitudes of self-reliance, self-improvement and mutual respect within Doncaster communities 	
6. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce crime and all forms of anti-social behaviour 	
7. Creating a cleaner and better environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to protect the environment from 	

	developers, decay and architectural vandalism	
8. Internal Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure local people get value for money from council services 	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

12. To maximise the effectiveness of the Overview and Scrutiny function it is important that the work plan devised is manageable and that it accurately reflects the broad range of issues within its remit. Failure to achieve this can reduce the overall impact of the function.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The Council's Constitution states that subject to matters being referred to it by other parts of the Full Council, OSMC or the Executive and any timetables laid down by those references the Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel will determine its own work programme (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 6c).
14. Overview and Scrutiny Panels Terms of Reference – 3, states that the Panel is empowered to establish ad hoc working groups from within its membership, to undertake project and policy development work, to meet the objectives and targets of its annual work plan.
15. Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15 (a) states that where, in the opinion of the Chair of an Overview and Scrutiny Panel, the matters under discussion are relevant to matters referred to other Scrutiny Panel(s) he/she shall consider to what extent to invite the participation of the Chair and/or other Members of the other Panel in the deliberations.
16. Specific legal implications and advice will be given with any reports when Overview and Scrutiny have received them as items for consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

17. The budget for the support of the Overview and Scrutiny function 2012/13 is not affected by this report however, the delivery of the work plan will need to take place within agreed budgets. There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. Any financial implications relating to specific reports on the work plan will be included in those reports.

CONSULTATION

18. A work planning event was held on the 22nd May 2012 with Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Members with a view to developing a draft work plan.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

19. None

CONTACT OFFICER AND REPORT AUTHOR

Caroline Martin
Scrutiny Officer
01302 734941
caroline.martin@doncaster.gov.uk

Peter Dale
Director of Regeneration & Environment

Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Workplan 2012/2013

	22nd May 2012, 3:30pm	15th June 2012, 10am	29th June 2012, 10am	3rd September 2012, 2pm	17th October 2012, 10am	19th November 2012, 10:00am	22nd January 2012, 10:30am	18th March 2012, 10am
Policy Review/ Development	SMC Options	Local Development Framework - Next Steps	Gypsy and Traveller Review	Work and Skills		Tenure Strategy/Tenancy Policy	Sites and Policies Development Plan Document	
						Adoption of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2013)	Gypsy and Traveller Review	
							Place Marketing (Enterprising Doncaster)	
Performance		St Leger Performance 2011/2012 (Qtr 4)		R&E Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 1) St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 1)		St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 2)		R&E Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 3) St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 3)
Information Updates					Work, Skills And Enterprise Programme Going Forward And Update On Opportunity Centres			
Scrutiny (Holding to Account)		Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: - Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster		Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: Councillor C Ransome	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: - Councillor P Coddington	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates:- Councillor B Hoyle	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: - TBC

Annexe 1

	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April
Briefing Notes			Performance Information – 2011/2012 Quarter 4				Performance Information – 2012/13 Quarter 2 Environmental Strategy circulated for comment					
Reviews/ Working Groups: -				Environmental Strategy Working Group	Report to R&E O&S – Work & Skills		Report to R&E O&S – Environmental Strategy Work & Skills LMI/Careers & Guidance Working Group	Careers & Guidance Review Meeting	Housing Topic Review Meeting Draft Report to R&E O&S on Careers & Guidance Review		Draft Report to R&E O&S on the Housing Topic Review	
Members Workshops/ Seminars	Local Development Framework – Next Steps (PD)	CCQ Progress		Key Principles of Allocations Policy Review		New Tenancy Strategy Housing Allocations Follow Up						

Regeneration & Environment Outcomes and Impacts 2012/13 (November Update)

****	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
22 nd May 2012	<p>SMC Options Opportunity for the Panel to consider and comment on a range of options (including a preferred option) for the future management of the Keepmoat Stadium.</p> <p>The Panel supported the preferred option and made further recommendations including that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Athletics club are encouraged to consider being set up as a trust and in the event that this was to occur, that Elected Members are included as representatives on the board of that trust. 2. That the Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers attends meetings of the Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny to present on a quarterly basis a progress report including relevant feedback and performance information. 	To understand the options being taken forward and have the opportunity to comment on them and make recommendations.	Panel	<p>Cabinet 1st August 2012</p> <p>Quarterly updates from the Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers to commence January 2013 subject to availability</p>	<p>Cabinet agreed the final proposals as outlined in the report.</p> <p>The Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers to attend meetings of the Panel to present on a quarterly basis a progress report including relevant feedback and performance information.</p>
15 th June 2012	<p>Local Development Framework - Next Steps Opportunity for the panel to consider the proposed</p>	To understand the ongoing work and proposed consultation and approaches being taken	Panel	Decision taken at Cabinet 4 th July 2012	The Panels supported the recommendations being put forward to Cabinet and made a number of comments which were

****	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
	<p>approach for consultation on the sites and policies development plan document/draft process for dealing with neighbourhood planning and the proposed prioritisation of support for those areas identified within the core strategy as being suitable for most growth and ongoing work to consider community infrastructure levy.</p>	<p>forward in relation to the LDF. To have the opportunity to comment on the report and its recommendation and make before a decision is made at Cabinet.</p>			<p>incorporated into the report which included the proposed approach to consultation. This included the need to ensure that communities in the renewal towns were consulted via parish /town councils (reflected in paragraph 21) and that it was important that members were aware of the potential housing and employment sites in their wards, in advance of the public consultation (officers will ensure this happens).</p>
	<p>Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster Development; Transport; Equalities and Cohesion; the Council's Change Programme</p>	<p>To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>June 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports Update early 2013</p>	<p>To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.</p>
<p>29th June 2012,</p>	<p>Gypsy and Traveller Review To comment and note on a report and recommendations considered by Mayor and Cabinet on 4th July in relation to findings of the gypsy and traveller accommodation needs assessment and the strategy to meet those needs and the progress of the refurbishment scheme at the gibbons lane site and the extension scheme at land's end.</p>	<p>To be informed about the Gypsy and Traveller Review. To have the opportunity to comment on the report and its recommendations and make before a decision is made at Cabinet.</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Decision taken at Cabinet 4th July 2012</p>	<p>Revised recommendations were made at Cabinet which took into account comments made by the R&E O&S Panel. Agreed at Cabinet that recommendations, following consultation and the cost/benefit analysis to be brought back to Cabinet for a decision as soon as possible to enable compliance with the HCA's timelines.</p>
<p>3rd September 2012</p>	<p>Work and Skills Update Opportunity to receive information of the private sector led Work & Skills board.</p>	<p>To receive an annual update on the work of the Private Sector-led Work & Skills Board in attempting to improve the Skills our</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Cabinet 5th December 2012</p>	<p>As part of the recommendations made, the panel agreed to undertake that a joint working group is formed with members from the schools, children and young</p>

Annexe 1

''''	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
		residents have in order to support economic growth across the Borough. To consider undertaking a further piece of work around this area.			people overview and scrutiny panel (subject to the agreement of chair of that panel). this group will include members from both the regeneration & environment and schools, children and young people overview and scrutiny panel
	Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 1)- DMBC	Continue to monitor.	Panel	Through quarterly report & review	To hold relevant Directors and Cabinet Members to account. Focus on key areas of overspend & underperformance and consider actions for improvement. Identify issues for future consideration. Ensure concerns identified continue to be monitored.
	Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 1) – St Leger				
	Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Councillor C Ransome	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	September 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
17th October 2012	Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Councillor P Coddington	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	October 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
19th November 2012	Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Councillor B Hoyle	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	November 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.

****	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
	Adoption of the first Council Environment Strategy	It was agreed that a working group be set up to look at the Environmental Strategy. Following a meeting of the working group on the 10 th August 2012 recommendations were made by the working group which were accepted and have been incorporated into the final version of the strategy.		Going to Cabinet 5 th December 2012	
	Adoption of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2013)	Statutory Plan		Going to Cabinet 19 th December 2012	
	Tenancy Strategy, Tenancy Policy & Allocations Policy		Panel		
	Performance 2012/13 (Qtr 2) – St Leger	Continue to monitor.	Panel	Through quarterly report & review	To hold relevant Directors to account. Focus on key areas of overspend & underperformance and consider actions for improvement. Identify issues for future consideration. Ensure concerns identified continue to be monitored.

Councillor for Edenthorpe, Kirk Sandall & Barnby Dun

Home Tel: 01302 880242
Email: Tony.Revill@doncaster.gov.uk

10th September 2012

Peter Davies
Mayor of Doncaster
Floor 1
The Council House
College Road
Doncaster
DN1 3AJ

Dear Peter

Environmental Strategy

At the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Meeting held on the 3rd September 2012, the Panel received feedback and ratified recommendations made by a working group established by the Panel to feed into the development of the Environmental Strategy.

Therefore, please find outlined below the recommendations and observations made by the working group by theme and priority: -

Theme 1. Managing our environmental resources and services

P1. Waste minimisation - Minimise the creation of waste in the Borough and reduce the amount of waste that is created from going to landfill.

The group agreed that they were satisfied with this priority and therefore there are no recommendations to be put forward.

P2. Deliver more energy efficient housing - Improve the energy efficiency of social and private rented households and ensuring the efficiency of new developments.

It was acknowledged that within the Local Development Framework Core Strategy there is a requirement for new housing to be built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3, and to generate 10% of its power from renewable energy. It was also acknowledged that to raise the level too high could discourage developers.

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The following recommendations were therefore made: -

Recommendations:-

1. **That the use of renewable energy could be further promoted through the planning system.**
2. **That more positive wording within this section of the strategy could be considered which would encourage the use of more renewable energy.**
3. **That incentives should be provided to encourage the use of more renewable energy through the grants system, use of solar panels and ground source heat pumps.**

P3. Effective flood mitigation - Promotion of flood mitigation and further developing local resident's knowledge of flood risks in order to increase personal flood resilience.

The group agreed that they were satisfied with this priority and therefore there are no recommendations to be put forward.

Theme 2. Ensuring a quality environment

P4. Protect our air and water quality and address contaminated land issues - Effective monitoring of air and water Quality and sites with contaminated land, taking remedial action when required.

The Panel agreed that regarding air quality there were no recommendations to be made.

When considering water quality there was a discussion about contaminated land and the fact that although the person causing the contamination is responsible for addressing the problem in the event that they can't be found, the new owner will take on that responsibility. In light of this ruling, it was noted that lenders are reluctant to lend money as any defaults on mortgage payments mean that the provider will take on the responsibility in the event that the land becomes theirs. It was raised that as a local authority this is an issue that should be addressed in the future.

The following recommendations were therefore made: -

Recommendations:-

4. **That there needs to be further publicity and communication to address land contamination issues, in particular those caused by farmers and industry.**

- 5. That further consideration should be given about the issue of ownership and responsibility to address land contamination and what it could mean to Doncaster MBC.**

P5. Create a more attractive street-scene - Improve the look and attractiveness of the borough's Street Scene to support inward investment and to create places that people can be really proud of.

Following a brief discussion about work being undertaken within the Borough, the following recommendations were made:-

Recommendations:-

- 6. That there could be further publicity undertaken to encourage members of the public to take responsibility and to promote good practice in order to create places that people can be proud of.**
- 7. That further work is undertaken working with fast food outlets to ensure that they have an understanding about their legal responsibilities.**
- 8. That there could be further discussions about the use of Dog Exclusion Zones.**
- 9. That reference could be made within the document to S131 orders alongside a clear explanation of what they mean for residents and business within Doncaster.**
- 10. That the wording explaining the process of reporting others could emphasise the fact that reporting can be undertaken in confidence, in order encourage members of the public to undertake more.**

Theme 3. Valuing our environmental assets

P6. Protect and promote our historic environment - Increase public understanding of the value of our environment by promoting their social, cultural and economic benefits, whilst protecting its intrinsic value

The group agreed that they were satisfied with this priority and therefore there are no recommendations to be put forward.

P7. Protect and promote our natural environment

It was acknowledged that a Local Nature Partnership has been established which will help develop a more co-ordinated approach. Concerns were raised about the Borough's trees stock and how sustainable it is. It was suggested that perhaps we need to be more proactive as a local authority in maintaining sufficient stock. A member of the group stated that it was his belief that when new trees are planted they should be species which are traditionally native to the Doncaster area.

It was expressed that as a local authority we need to know what we have got and that there is a Green Space Audit that it is need of updating which is planned to be undertaken in the near future.

The following recommendations were therefore made: -

Recommendations:

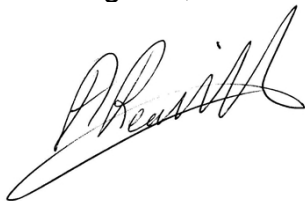
- 11. That an inclusion could be made in the Strategy to tree planting within the Borough.**
- 12. That future tree planting could be undertaken to reflect the natural environment, enable trees to grow to maturity without causing problems for local residents and also for more trees to be planted where this would reduce flooding.**

- P8. Ensure access to high quality green spaces and the countryside -**
Effective management of our public parks and woodlands and improve access to our public right of way network

The group agreed that they were satisfied with this priority and therefore there are no recommendations to be put forward.

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Stephen Butler, Planning Policy Manager (Natural Environment), Ian Kellett, Environment and Education Officer and Richard Ward, Drainage Engineer for taking the time to meet with Members as part of the working group. The Panel looks forward to receiving the final draft at its meeting on the 19th November 2012 and to receive an update on the progress of the recommendations made. I therefore look forward to receiving a response from you no later than **10th October 2012** on the recommendations and comments outlined above.

Kind regards,



Councillor A Revill
Chair – Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

cc. Jo Miller, Chief Executive
Chair/Vice Chair of O.S.M.C.
Cabinet
Peter Dale, Director of Development
Gill Gillies, Assistant Director of Environment
Stephen Butler, Planning Policy Manager (Natural Environment)

Directorate of Resources

Scrutiny Offices, 2 Priory Place, Doncaster, DN1 1BN

PD/JB

5th October 2012

Councillor Tony Revill
Chair of Regeneration and Environment O&S Panel
Scrutiny Offices
2 Priory Place
Doncaster
DN1 1BN

Dear Tony

Environmental Strategy

Thank you for your letter dated 10th September 2012 setting out the recommendations of the Regeneration & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Panel meeting, held on 3rd September, in relation to the above strategy.

I welcome the comments made, and the support of you and your colleagues in moving this strategy forward. I have discussed the recommendations with officers to consider the best way of reflecting them in the strategy; some have resulted in new actions, others in amendments to existing actions, and others will be key considerations in how the actions within the strategy are implemented.

Please find attached a table summarising my initial response to each recommendation, and these will be reflected in the external consultation version currently being finalised. I look forward to receiving the comments of external partners and partnerships, prior to seeking further comments from Scrutiny colleagues in November.

Yours sincerely

Peter Davies
Mayor of Doncaster

Env Strat Recommendations Action Plan

Recommendation	Response
<p>P2. Deliver more energy efficient housing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the use of renewable energy could be further promoted through the planning system. 2. That more positive wording within this section of the strategy could be considered which would encourage developers to use more renewable energy. 3. That for new developments, incentives should be provided to encourage the use of more renewable energy such as grants and ground source heat pumps. 	<p>It is agreed that these are important issues, points 1 and 3 is better addressed though the LDF than the Environment Strategy (in particular policy CS14 which requires new development to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation equivalent to 10% of energy needs). Point could be addressed by amended action 2.2 to read</p> <p><i>Encourage the use of renewable energy within new developments and existing properties, including assisting 10,000 homes with energy efficiency improvements</i></p>
<p>P4. Protect our air and water quality and address contaminated land issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. That there needs to be further publicity and communication to address land contamination issues, in particular those caused by farmers and industry. 5. That further consideration should be given about the issue of ownership and responsibility to address land contamination and what it could mean to Doncaster MBC. 	<p>It is agreed that these are important issues. They should be an integral part of taking forward the actions already set out under this priority, and so it is considered that no additional wording is required.</p>
<p>P5. Create a more attractive street-scene</p> <p>The following recommendations were made:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. That there could to be further publicity undertaken to encourage members of the public to take responsibility and to promote good practice in order to create places that people can be proud of. 7. That further work is undertaken working with fast food outlets to ensure that they have an understanding about their legal responsibilities. 8. That there could be further discussions about the use of Dog Exclusion Zones. 9. That reference could be made within the document to S131 orders alongside a clear explanation of what they mean for residents and business within Doncaster. 10. That the wording explaining the process of reporting others could emphasise the fact that reporting can be undertaken in confidence in order encourage members of the public to undertake more. 	<p>Point 6 is now addressed by an expanded introduction that sets out that personal responsibility is an overarching consideration.</p> <p>Point 7 is addressed by amending the wording of action P5.7 to read</p> <p><i>Work with fast food outlets and takeaways with the aim of these businesses taking more responsibility for litter problems outside of their premises and in the immediate area, and understand their legal responsibilities</i></p> <p>Point 8 is addressed by amending P5.3 to read</p> <p><i>Promote responsible dog ownership through media campaigns and effectively publicising enforcement action taken, and consider the use of dog exclusion zones</i></p> <p>Point 9 is addressed by amending P5.5 to read</p> <p><i>Further increase the number of investigations and enforcement actions relating to fly-tipping incidents, and work with partners to effectively</i></p>

Doncaster Council
Development, Strategy & Programmes
 Colonnades House, Duke Street, Doncaster, DN1 1ER

Recommendation	Response
	<p><i>address other forms of environmental crime (including the use of S.131 orders in relation to damage to the highway)</i></p> <p>Point 10 is addressed by amending P5.5 to read</p> <p><i>Make our residents more aware of how they can report unkempt properties to the Council and update them when action is taken, and emphasise that such reports can be made anonymously</i></p>
<p>P7. Protect and promote our natural environment</p> <p>11. That an inclusion could be made in the Strategy to tree planting within the Borough.</p> <p>12. That future tree planting could be undertaken to reflect the natural environment and also for more trees to be planted within flood zones.</p>	<p>These could be addressed by adding an action (P7.14) as follows</p> <p><i>We will seek to sustainably manage the borough's urban forest, ensuring that any new tree planting is within locations and uses species that are the most appropriate to maximise the amenity for local residents, enhance local distinctiveness and wider benefits such as reduced surface run-off, urban cooling and wildlife.</i></p>

Doncaster Council
 Development, Strategy & Programmes
 Colonnades House, Duke Street, Doncaster, DN1 1ER

Councillor for Edenthorpe, Kirk Sandall & Barnby Dun

Home Tel: 01302 880242
Email: Tony.Revill@doncaster.gov.uk

10th September 2012

Peter Davies
Mayor of Doncaster
Floor 1
The Council House
College Road
Doncaster
DN1 3AJ

Dear Peter

Update on Work and Skills Partnership

At the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Meeting held on the 3rd September 2012, the Panel received a report providing an 'Update on Work and Skills Partnership'. The Panel noted the report and considered the effectiveness of what is proposed to improve skill levels across the borough.

Following the discussion, members of the Panel agreed on the following recommendations: -

1. That a joint working group is formed with members from the Schools, Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel (subject to the agreement of Chair of that Panel). This group will include the following Members from the Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel:
 - Councillor Richard Cooper-Holmes
 - Councillor Nuala Fennelly
 - Councillor Yvonne Woodcock
 - Councillor Monty Cuthbert

Please note that it is the intention that the Chair and Vice Chair of both Panels meet informally with officers in the near future to discuss this in more detail.

2. That members of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel receive the Labour Market Information Survey at a future meeting and invite members of the Schools, Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel for that meeting.

Page 1.
Continued

3. That members of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel receive further information at a future Panel meeting on new ways of working within the Council to maximise local job opportunities. This information will outline to the Panel the process in place in the Planning Team for planners to flag up to the Investment Team where job opportunities could occur following contact with developers submitting planning applications. This process ensures that once such job opportunities have been identified to the Investment Team, Officers will try to ensure that we have a local labour force match to meet the new supply.

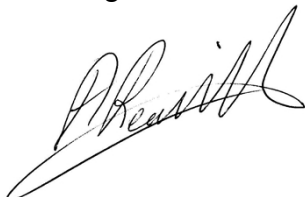
The Panel also raised the following comments: -

- That the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector as part of the work carried out by the partnership needs further clarification. It was felt by one member of the Panel that this sector has a great deal to offer, particularly in providing low level basic skills training.
- Regarding the involvement of schools and academy schools, Members believe that utilising governors are essential in enabling the partnership to become more engaged with them.

Overall, the Panel expressed that they were pleased that action is being taken to address the work and skills issue within Doncaster and are interested in receiving relevant updates on the initiatives in place and the delivery of the actions outlined in the report.

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Lee Tillman, Head of Strategy and Programmes, Jayne Vose, Head of Service for Learner Engagement for presenting the report and answering questions. I would also like to thank Nigel Brewster, Managing Director, Brewster McBride (and Skills Chair for the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership) and Dan Fell, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Doncaster Chamber for attending the meeting and responding to questions from members of the Panel. I therefore look forward to receiving a response from you no later than 10th October 2012 on the recommendations and comments outlined above.

Kind regards,



Councillor A Revill

Chair – Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

cc. Jo Miller, Chief Executive
Chair/Vice Chair of O.S.M.C.

Directorate of Resources

Scrutiny Offices, 2 Priory Place, Doncaster, DN1 1BN

Cabinet

Peter Dale, Director of Development

Scott Cardwell, Director of Development

Lee Tillman, Head of Strategy and Programmes

Jayne Vose, Head of Service for Learner Engagement

PD/JB

1st October 2012

Councillor Tony Revill
Chair of Regeneration and Environment O&S Panel
Scrutiny Offices
2 Priory Place
Doncaster
DN1 1BN

Dear Tony

Update on Work & Skills Partnership

Thank you for your letter dated 10th September 2012 regarding the update you received in relation to our Work & Skills Partnership. I am pleased that the Panel recognised the work being undertaken on this vital issue in order to improve the Borough's wider economy.

Taking each of the points you raise in turn:-

1. I believe that a joint working group between members of the Schools, Children & Young People Panel and the Regeneration & Environment Panel is a good idea. I will ask both Lee Tillman and Iain Thomson from our Strategy & Programmes Team to facilitate this.
2. The Labour Market Information Survey results should be available in report form in November, and this will be presented by officers at a future Panel meeting. This report should give members a clear idea on the skills requirements and experiences of businesses across the Borough, and will guide the Partnership's future work to meet these needs.
3. I will also ensure that the Panel receives the information requested on maximising local job opportunities through linking future Planning schemes to our Business Support functions. I am extremely keen that the Council actively supports appropriate new schemes in the Borough, and that it works with Partners to ensure we have a local labour force that can take advantage of the job opportunities these new schemes will bring.

Directorate of Resources

Scrutiny Offices, 2 Priory Place, Doncaster, DN1 1BN

4. In addition, I would like to confirm to Members from the Panel that the Voluntary and Community sector does play an active role within the Work & Skills Partnership, and is represented at Board level through the Doncaster Association of Training Managers (DATM).
5. Finally, I agree with the Panel that the involvement of Schools & Academies within this work is absolutely essential. As a result, I expect Governors to be kept informed of the work of this Partnership through existing lines of communication from the Council, for example, the Quarterly Newsletter distributed to all Schools from our Assistant Director for Education.

I trust the above is helpful. I would like to thank you and the Panel once again for considering this important work in detail, and for raising these recommendations with me to improve what we offer.

Yours sincerely

Peter Davies
Mayor of Doncaster

ENTERPRISING DONCASTER AGENDA

8:30 am Monday 29th October 2012,

Venue: ProActive Offices, House Sidings Court, White Rose Way, Doncaster DN45NU

1.	Welcome, Apologies and Introductions Apologies: Tracey Harwood, Interim Assistant Director Strategic Housing; Peter Dale, Director of Regeneration and Environment; Jo Miller, Managing Director of DMBC	Jon Whiteley 8:30
Items for Discussion		
2.	Enterprising Doncaster's Role: a) Agreement of Revised Structure b) City Region Governance	Jon Whiteley/ Nigel Brewster 8:35
3.	Doncaster's Key Challenges: a) Local Economic Assessment Key Messages (Evidence Base) b) Stocktake Feedback	Scott Cardwell 8:45
4.	Current Activity/Champion Lead Update a) Economy b) Skills c) Housing d) Transport – Champion Interviews 29th October Q: Is the current focus of activity correct in light of the LEA/Stock Take?	Jon Whiteley/ Nigel Brewster/ Jim Wren 9:15
5.	Economic Portfolio Holder Updates	Peter Davies 9:30
6.	Business Doncaster Offer	Jon Whiteley 9:45
7.	Place Marketing	Malcolm Cowing 10.00
8.	Partners – Updates by exception	
9.	AOB Agreement of 2012/13 proposed meeting dates:	10.25

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9.	End of meeting	10.30